

Revival of Talcher Unit

†1832. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Hon'ble Minister made any recent announcement of restart FCI, unit at Talcher in Orissa; and
- (b) if so, the actual status thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) and (b) As per the Common Minimum Programme of UPA Government, a Cabinet Note for obtaining in principle approval of the Cabinet for revival of all units of Fertilizers Corporation of India Limited (FCIL) including its Talcher Unit has been sent to competent authority.

Shortage of chemical fertilizers

†1833. SHRI BASHISTHA NARAIN SINGH: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is fact that the farmers had to face the shortage of chemical fertilizers during Kharif seasons;
- (b) if so, the steps Government have taken to ensure the sufficient availability of fertilizers;
- (c) whether Government are aware of the fact that during the Kharif seasons fertilizers were not made available to the farmers in Bihar in time and at fair prices which lead to black marketing; and
- (d) the efforts Government have made to prevent the recurrence of such incidents in Rabi seasons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI B.K. HANDIQUE): (a) and (b) Urea is the only fertilizer which is under partial movement distribution and price control of the Government. All the other chemical fertilizers viz. DAP, MOP and SSP etc. are decontrolled ones and its movement and distribution are completely outside Government control. No allocation under ECA is regulated for these

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.